

term health and medical effects of exposure, but has left doctors with few options besides symptomatic treatment of the hundreds of thousands of gas-affected individuals and children. The devastating health effects of the gas, the birth defects of their children and inability to work because of illness have forced many Bhopali families in desperate need of medical help into insurmountable debt.

Since 1999, at least three independent environmental surveys, including one conducted by state authorities in India, have shown that the former Union Carbide plant has badly polluted the soil and groundwater aquifer beneath it resulting in severe contamination of the drinking water supply of as many as 20,000 people living in residential colonies near the plant. One study found the presence of a large number of highly toxic pollutants in drinking water samples tested by the University of Exeter in the U.K. that were matched with chemicals found in soil samples from the Bhopal plant, including one carcinogenic chemical whose presence in the drinking water exceeded by 1,705 times the maximum limit allowed by the World Health Organization.

Another environmental survey was able to trace chemicals from the former Union Carbide plant in the breast milk of mothers living in the residential areas in the vicinity of the badly polluted site, which continues to leach pollutants into the groundwater aquifer to date. The land for the plant was leased from the State of Madhya Pradesh in India which stipulated that, upon termination, the land would be returned to the State in the condition that it was first leased and suitable for the use prescribed by the zoning regulations. The State discovered that clean-up of the site until 1998 had been insufficient leaving thousands of metric tons of toxic wastes, chemical by-products, effluents, and other hazardous materials both above-ground on the premises of the factory and below ground in burial pits and landfills, all of which posed a grave threat to the surrounding population.

At least 10 residential areas in the vicinity of the former Union Carbide plant were found to have severely polluted drinking water according to these environmental studies and no substantive effort has been undertaken for environmental remediation of the area leaving water that has high levels of mercury, dichlorobenzenes, chloroform, carbon tetrachloride, and other pollutants, toxins, and heavy metals. Soil samples from the area have found abnormal amounts of lead, nickel, copper, chromium, hexachlorocyclohexane, and chlorobenzenes. Tainted water and the generally toxic living environments have led to premature cancer, deformities, chromosomal aberrations, and other disorders for Bhopali children.

There is a "polluter pays" principle enshrined in the domestic laws of both India and the United States as well as both domestic and international law which states that the polluter rather than the public agencies or taxpayers should be held responsible for its environmental pollution in its entirety. International trade and ethical practices compel Dow Chemical to treat this matter very seriously and ensure that equitable treatment be afforded to the victims and their progeny.

Mr. Speaker, India is the largest democratic country in the world and enjoys a close and mutual friendship with the United States based on common values and common interests,

and as a result, our countries should come together to recognize the gravity of the Bhopal disaster and the ongoing environmental problems in Bhopal caused by Union Carbide's policies and practices.

I encourage my colleagues in the U.S. Congress to support this resolution and commit to working together with the Indian government, Dow Chemical Corporation, and the victims to ensure that Union Carbide provides complete medical, social, and economic rehabilitation to the victims of the disaster. In addition, we should work together to ensure that Union Carbide undertakes a complete environmental remediation that restores the badly polluted plant site affected by this disaster to a habitable condition and fully remediates the drinking water supply of affected residential communities. Lastly, we need to ensure that Union Carbide appears before the Bhopal District Court for prosecution on the criminal charges pending against it there, in accordance with principles of international law regarding criminal jurisdiction accepted by the world community including India and the United States.

HONORING IRVING B. HARRIS

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the passing of one of Chicago's greatest philanthropists and most successful businessmen, Irving B. Harris. Since the creation of his first nonprofit foundation, Irving Harris' generosity touched the lives of the people, and particularly the children, of Chicago for nearly 60 years.

As co-owners of Toni Home Permanent Company, Irving Harris and his brother Neison were pioneers in the at-home hair wave craze of the mid-20th century. By 1948, the Harris' company had become so successful as to sell it to Gillette for \$20 million. Irving went on to become the chairman of Pittway Corporation, a multi-billion dollar corporation his family ran until 2000.

But as Irving's wife Joan said "He liked business, and he was good at it. But I think in the end, what really yanked his chain was his work with the not-for-profits." Chicago's cultural and education scene was forever changed by this love.

During Irving Harris' lifetime, his foundations and generosity led to the creation and development of several noteworthy Chicago institutions charged with early childhood development. These include the Erikson Institute for Advanced Study in Child Development, the Ounce of Prevention Fund, Illinois' first public-private partnership to develop and monitor programs aimed at preventing family dysfunction, and the Beethoven project, which provides assistance and help to at-risk families in Chicago's most disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Irving Harris was also very committed during his lifetime to higher education. The University of Chicago opened the doors on the Irving B. Harris School of Public Policy in 1988, committed to shaping and understanding public life by conducting policy relevant research and preparing talented individuals to become leaders and agents of social change.

Right until the end of his life, Irving Harris left his mark on the city he loved. A Center-

piece of Chicago's grand new Millennium Park is the Joan W. and Irving B. Harris Music and Dance Theater, which was made possible by Irving's tremendous donation of \$39 million toward the \$52 million cost.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Chicago, I am privileged to honor the memory of Irving B. Harris, one of Chicago's greatest humanitarians. My family and I would like to express our deepest condolences to Irving's wife Joan, his sister, June Barrows, his 6 children, 10 grandchildren, and 26 great grandchildren.

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PALESTINIAN INTIFADA

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on the fourth anniversary of the Palestinian Intifada, I would like to send my condolences to all the families that have lost a loved one or suffered from a terrorist attack.

These have been a long four years of violence since the Palestinian Intifada began on September 28, 2000. Today, on the fourth anniversary of this terrorist war waged against our ally Israel, I believe it is important for us all to reflect on these past 4 years.

What has this terrorist war achieved—the answer to that question is only blood shed.

Since the start of the Intifada, 940 innocent Israelis have been murdered and thousands more injured by terrorist attacks. Even with all the blood on the hands of these terrorists, they have been unable to come close to achieving their goal of destroying the state of Israel or creating a Palestinian state. The only thing these terrorists have achieved is the murder of so many and causing pain to their own people.

A state for the Palestinian people will never be achieved while terrorists continue to strike Israel. Whether they come from territory controlled by the Palestinian Authority, through Lebanon, Syria, or Iran peace can never be achieved while extremists wage this terrorist war on Israel.

It is time for the governments of the Middle East to step up and work with the Palestinian leadership to end all support for terrorism and assist a Palestinian government that can provide the security that is needed to realize their dream of a state. The first step toward achieving this goal is for Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qurei to crack down on terrorists who continue to strike Israel. To do this Yassir Arafat must be removed from any position of power and control of the security forces must be centralized.

Mr. Speaker, this anniversary is something I hope we do not have to recognize at this time next year. I hope that peace can be achieved but until then we must continue our support of Israel and her fight against these extremist elements.